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United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400
Date: July 2, 2004

Mr. Keith Newlin, Assistant Superintendent
Allegheny Portage Railroad
USDI National Park Service
110 Federal Park Road
Gallitzin, PA 16641-2000

Dear Mr. Newlin:

On June 24, 2004, I conducted an aerial survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at the Alleghney Portage Railroad, Staple Bend Tunnel, and Johnstown Flood Memorial. I am pleased to report that no defoliation was detected at, or in the vicinity of, your sites.

However, if you anticipate requesting either financial or technical assistance for gypsy moth control in 2005, please contact Brad Onken (304) 285-1546 or me (304) 285-1555 before August 27, 2004.

I have also enclosed a pest alert on the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*. This exotic beetle feeds on various species of ash and is a major threat to the ash resource of the region. Emerald ash borer has been detected in areas of Ohio, Michigan, Virginia and Maryland. The two most common ways of spreading emerald ash borer is through the movement of infested nursery stock or through the movement of infested fire wood. Additional information on emerald ash borer can be found at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab .

Please contact me of the above number if you have any questions regarding this aerial survey letter or emerald ash borer.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Enclosure

Cc: Wayne Millington, IPM Specialist, NPS
Don Eggen, PA BOF
Noel Schneeberger, AO